(b) if so, what have been the findings of said review;

(c) whether Government agrees with the view point of the Ministry of Finance on the issue;

(d) if so, the details of the measures taken to realize the same; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (e) The proposal regarding investment in equities was discussed in the 178th meeting of the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund and it was decided not to invest in equities.

Free and compulsory education to working children

3965. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish any plan to provide free and compulsory education and to pay scholarship to the working children under 14 as per the constitution obligation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Government is providing free and compulsory education to all children in the 6—14 years age group under the Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Government is also implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 250 districts of the country for the rehabilitation of working children below the age of 14 years. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes are put into Special Schools, where they are provided with accelerated bridging education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health care facilities etc., before they are mainstreamed into regular education.

(c) Does not arise.

Conciliation references pending with CLC

3966. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Asstt. Labour Commission and Regional Labour Commission in the country, State-wise;

(b) how many conciliatery proceedings are pending with R.L.C. in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Assam and Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) how many conciliatery references are pending with Chief Labour Commission (CLC) as on 01.04.2007 and the reasons for such large pendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The details of Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central)